

Application No.: 09/908,731
Amendment Dated October 14, 2003
Response to the Office Action of July 14, 2003

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 3, 11 and 13 were amended. Claims 12 and 20 were canceled. Therefore, claims 1 – 11 and 13 – 19 are currently pending in the present application. The objections and rejections set forth in the Office Action are respectfully traversed.

The Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1 – 10, 14, 16, and 18 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by **Motomura et al.** Claims 11 – 13, 15 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Motomura** as applied to claims 1-10, 14, 16 and 18 – 20. However, it is submitted that the cited prior art does not teach or suggest all the features recited in the present claimed invention, as amended.

For instance, independent claim 1 recites the transfective layer as “including transparent portions for transmitting light and an untransparent portion surrounding the transparent portions, wherein the untransparent portion is a thin metal film and the transparent portions are an oxide film of a thin metal film.” The prior art does not disclose at least these claimed features. According to **Motomura**, by thinning a metal film or using a dielectric multiple layer, a film itself performs reflection and transmission. In contrast, a part of a transreflective layer of the present invention is a transmission portion, and the periphery thereof is non-transmission portion. For at least these reasons, the present claimed invention patentably distinguishes over the prior art.

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If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully Submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP



John P. Kong
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No.: 40,054

JPK:kal
1250 Connecticut Avenue
Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 822-1100
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